

# Fort Davis

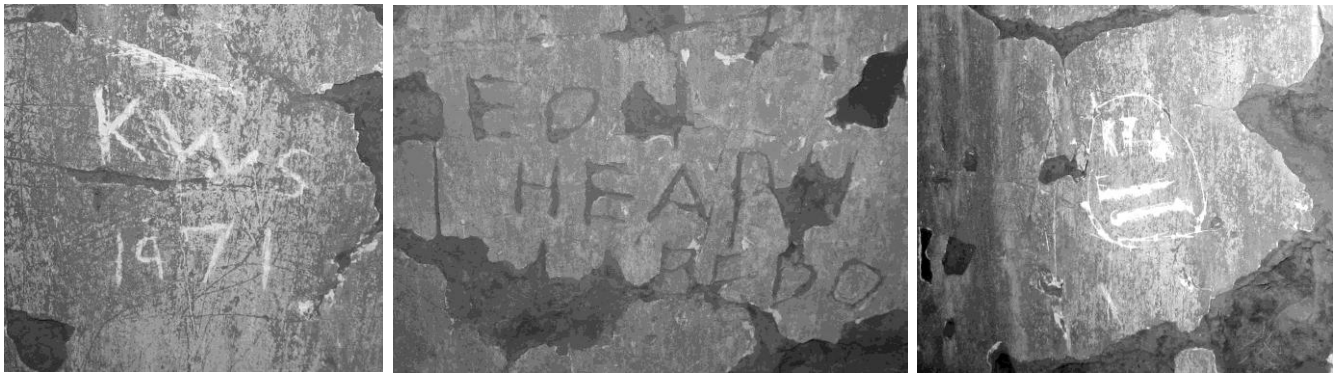
## National Historic Site

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



Curriculum Materials Grades 9-12

Student Activity: Legacies are Not Left in Graffiti



### ~~~ Legacies are Not Left in Graffiti ~~~

#### Action Plan to Preserve Places like Fort Davis National Historic Site

**The Problem:** Many times when students visit places like Fort Davis National Historic Site, they notice graffiti—such as in the photos above—on walls of the historic buildings. The problem is how to prevent vandalism like this.

**Your Task:** Try to understand motives for why people do things like graffiti. It is a crime—but why is it wrong? Why is leaving behind one's "mark" meaningful? How do we feel when we see graffiti? Sometimes graffiti is done by locals—what are they thinking, marring their own communities? How can we teach responsibility and respect for property?

Come up with possible solutions for preventing vandalism such as graffiti. Consider creative solutions not yet tried, as well as solutions others have tried. Choose the solution you feel is **BEST** and most realistic to implement. How can we keep those who perpetrate crimes like this from doing so? What kind of punishment is appropriate? Graffiti vandals represent every social, economic, and ethnic background. Two women caught doing graffiti at Fort Davis NHS were in their late 20s and early 30s; it took Boy Scouts numerous Saturdays using wire brushes to remove the women's names from the cliff walls.

**Action Plan:** Create an action plan to implement your solution. Explain how your solution will be implemented. Use the following five criteria to form your action plan.

## 1. Practicality

- ✓ How realistic is your solution? Will it easily be implemented or will it take a lot of time, money, and people to implement?

## 2. Persuasiveness

- ✓ Does your action plan give ample evidence that your proposed solution will address the problem directly?

## 3. Money

- ✓ How much will your solution cost to implement? Do you think it's worth the investment?

## 4. Time

- ✓ How long will your plan take to fully implement? Days? Weeks? Years?

## 5. People

- ✓ Will your solution involve certain people? Such as Volunteers? Park rangers? Schools? Teachers? Government agencies? Youth groups? Parents? Church groups? Who?



Fort Davis National Historic Site, Texas

***“Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.”***

*Theodore Roosevelt*